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The book is handsomely bound, and profusely illustrated. The fac-similes of Hamilton's letters and legal documents are especially interesting.

B. McL., Jr.

The Revision and Amendment of State Constitutions. By Walter Fairleigh Dodd. The Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, 1910. xvii. pp. 350.

Too often the reader of a work devoted to subjects kindred to the Revision and Amendment of State Constitutions is left at sea with a mass of historical facts and legal information, immediately valuable but practically unusable. In reading the recent monograph of Mr. Walter F. Dodd, however, no such criticism can be offered, for the reader will at once find a work both methodical and useful.

The opening chapter gives a concise and interesting historical development of the State Constitutional Conventions down to 1783. In the second and third chapters the author treats of the Constitutional Conventions from 1783 down to 1908. In the one, he gives a scholarly exposition of the growth of the distinctions between constitutions and statutes, and in the other, a careful analysis of the legal position of the Constitutional Convention. The fourth chapter deals with the amendment of the constitutions, the practice relative to such amendment and revision, and the judicial attitude of the courts. The last chapter shows the actual working and effect of the constitutional referendum.

Throughout the entire book the author has placed great emphasis upon the present day conditions. This fact, together with the concise outlines and summaries of each topic, and the orderly marshalling of subtopics, makes the book one of unusual value to laymen as well as lawyers.

To the volume are appended tables of the popular votes upon constitutional questions in all of the states of the Union covering a period from 1899 to 1908. Reference to these tables greatly aids the understanding of the comparative interest of the voting population in constitutional questions submitted to them.

H. N. R.